

A/B, II, 203, 1

23 September 1953

VIA

Chief, Security Research Staff  
Chief, Technical Branch

Proposed Research

1. A suggested research program for ARTICHOKE purposes is hereby presented. Although it has been impossible to go into this idea in great detail, some of the pertinent facts follow:

2. The undersigned served in the [redacted] In an informal discussion with him, in which I did not discuss my particular interests, I have learned that the [redacted] carries on many of its experiments within the federal prisons. Several so-called dangerous experiments were conducted in federal prisons and there is great co-operation between the [redacted] and the research organization.

3. Interesting from the ARTICHOKE point of view is the fact that there are some four thousand (4,000) American military men who are serving court martial sentences in the federal prisons at the present time. These men are scattered through the federal institutions according to their age -- some being at reformatories, others at prisons. It is administratively possible that the sentences of these men can be reduced by direction of the [redacted] office. Therefore, if these men should be wanted for work on a dangerous research project, it might be possible to motivate their interest by promising that recommendations would be made to the [redacted] office to have their sentences appropriately reduced if they co-operated in the experimentation. Also many offenses of military men were committed in circumstances which might tend to lessen the feeling of guilt on the part of the individual and such cases might reveal interesting information.

4. Another bit of information that came up is that the [redacted] of the reformatory at [redacted] Such an individual might be very interested in experiments along ARTICHOKE lines. The closest federal institution (with the exception of National Training School) is at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

5. All federal prisons have hospital setups with doctors on the permanent staff. Such things as the size of the institution and current population would have to be considered but it is a fact that the federal prisons are not overcrowded as is the case with many state prisons; thus, it would be much easier to obtain working space in a federal institution.

[redacted]

[REDACTED]

6. In order to pursue the possibility of carrying on ANTICHOKE research in federal prisons, it would be necessary to clear [REDACTED] my friend, who would be the contact, and the [REDACTED] of the institution selected. It may not even be necessary to clear the medics in the institution if the ANTICHOKE team would represent itself as a research team from a university or a research organization. At most, it would be necessary only to clear the chief medic. Since both [REDACTED] are located in the city, it would be very easy to definitely determine the feasibility of such a project with no expense. I understand that [REDACTED] who has been at the [REDACTED] since its inception, has engaged in many high-level government activities and may already be cleared for contact by this Agency.

7. May I request that you consider this possibility and advise me whether you desire any further action to be taken.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]